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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 29, 1888.

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DEATH NOT INEVITABLE.

People die through their ignorance of the laws which govern their existence and also from their inability or indisposition to obey those laws with which they are acquainted. We are told in the first chapter of Genesis that before Adam ate the forbidden fruit the life of man was to be eternal, but with the acquisition of the knowledge of good and evil death became his portion. It seems to me that it would be more in accordance with the actual state of affairs at the present time to believe that death came through his loss of knowledge rather than from his obtaining it, for now he loses his life not through an excess of knowledge, but through an excess of ignorance.

I do not see that there is any physiological reason why even at the present day man should die. From a knowledge of the causes of disease greater than that possessed 6000 years ago, and from the advance of medical science leading to better methods of treating the deviations from the normal standard of health to which we are subject, the life of a generation has within the period mentioned been lengthened from five to six years. That is, the average man instead of living 20 years as he did 6000 years ago now lives nearly 30 years. Looking at the question from this standpoint only, it will be seen that it is merely a question of time when his life will be extended to thousands of years, and that with an eternity of time his life also will be eternal.

Let us take one aspect of the subject and we shall not, I think, fail to perceive that when we thoroughly understand it and are willing to live in accordance with its requirements, death, unless by accident, will cease to exist.

We know that this life is continued through the death of the various atoms of the several tissues that enter into the composition of his body. The organs are kept in action by force and this force results as does all other force from the metamorphosis of matter. Thus to obtain heat we burn wood or coal, and ashes and gases are evolved in the process; to generate electricity we convert zinc or some other metal into a salt, through the action of an acid, and electricity is free. In the body, the brain, the heart, the liver, the muscles all act through the destruction, or rather alteration, of the substance of which they are composed. With every thought that emanates from the brain, with every emotion which it feels, with every act of the will which it originates, with every perception which it experiences, a certain portion of the central tissue is broken down into simpler substances and through various channels is excreted from the body. With every pulsation that the heart makes some part of the organ, small though it may be in amount, is destroyed and is cast out of the system to make room for new substance.

The food that a man takes into his stomach ought to be of such quantity and quality as would exactly repair the losses which through the action of the several organs his body is to undergo. If it is deficient, disease of some kind will certainly be the result. If he knows enough to be able to adjust his daily food to the expected daily requirements of his system disease could never ensue through the exhaustion of any one of his vital organs. A large majority of the morbid affections to which he is subject are due to a lack of this knowledge.

Suppose, for instance, that a man on rising in the morning should say to himself, "Today I have to read 10 pages of 'Blackstone's Commentaries,' 20 pages of 'Don Quixote,' to walk three miles and a half, to pay a visit of half an hour's duration to my grandmother and to take my sweet-heart to the theatre, where I shall spend two hours; to do this I require (taking out his pencil and memorandum book as he speaks) so much carbon, so much nitrogen (giving, of course, the exact weight of these several elementary substances). I can get these precise quantities from eight ounces of bread, four ounces of eggs, eight ounces of beef, six ounces of potatoes, four ounces of fish, a half pint of beef soup, eight ounces of water and eight ounces of strong coffee, to make them go a little further than they otherwise would. In case I have any extraordinary demand made upon me for mental or physical exertion, I shall have to add to these substances others which will compensate for the increased loss."

Now suppose that he is exactly right in his calculations and that the food taken is

neither too great nor too little but exactly compensates the anticipated losses, the death of each cell in the brain or the heart or the muscles, etc., will be followed by the birth of a new cell which will take its place and assume its functions. Gout, rheumatism, liver and kidney diseases, heart affections, softening and other destructive diseases of the brain, the various morbid conditions to which the digestive organs are subject, would be impossible except through the action of some external force such as the swallowing of sulphuric acid or a blow on the head or a stab with a knife which would come clearly within the class of accidents, and of course many of these would be avoidable.

Supposing all this (and I admit that it is not very likely that he will for ages upon ages acquire the almost God-like omniscience necessary) death would be impossible, and the eternal life to which we are told he was born would again be his.

From a consideration of these points we perceive that people die:

First—From ignorance of all the laws of life.

Second—From wilfulness in not obeying the laws they know.

WILLIAM A. HAMMOND.

"TRUSTS" MUST GO.

What is the use of any new labor-saving invention, any discovery of science, any improvement in arts or cheapening of transportation, if the trusts are to be allowed to put up prices and crowd down wages indefinitely?

Even if free trade were all that its most zealous advocates claim, of what avail would it be to abolish tariffs if international trusts can come the world's supply of the necessities of life and fix their own prices?

The sugar refiners form a trust and the consumers must hand over \$50,000,000 a year, more or less, in the shape of exorbitant profits. The rubber manufacturers form a trust, and every wearer of rubber shoes or user of hot-water bottles must pay the penalty. The copper mine owners form a world-wide trust, and whether there is production or not, the high-tariff price rule with the difference that the tariff is levied by the trust instead of by the government.

The people are plundered, and the end is not yet.

The power of the trusts must be broken.

VENEZUELA INVADIED.

While Russia, Germany, Austria and several lesser powers are standing ready to gobble up poor little Bulgaria, Great Britain is pursuing her usual tactics by extending the boundaries of her colonial territories at the expense of her neighbors.

The latest bit of English greed is displayed in Venezuela. England has a small coffee and spice-producing bit of land in South America, painted red on the maps and labelled "British Guiana." The republic of Venezuela is close by, and has a fellow-Guianian called "Venezuelan Guiana." Of late it has been discovered that this named place is rich in gold mines. No sooner did England learn this than British Guiana began to swell and enlarge until it now occupies all the richest mines of Venezuela.

There is no reason for this except the reason of greed. England is strong, Venezuela is weak; and the large and powerful oppresses the small. The Venezuelan ministry has sent in protests against the thefts, but as yet they have been ignored. They will continue to be neglected until some stronger power calls a halt.

The United States has no quarrel with England. We are good neighbors, and fairly good friends; but if the "Monroe doctrine" is not a dead letter England has defied an unwritten law by taking possession of a portion of Venezuela. If she is allowed to hold the unjustly gained territory without a protest it will not be long before she reaches out and takes in other territory; and before we know it she will own all South America. The rich mine beds of Chili and the guano deposits of Peru are now under British control, and the Guiana gold mines are soon to become a portion of the Queen's dominion.

If we wish the Monroe doctrine respected and honored it seems as if England should be asked to explain her conduct.

THE NOBLE ARMY OF DECLINERS.

On the eve of another national canvass the Republican party is being inundated with declinations in advance of its nomination for the presidency. This is a positively unprecedented state of things. Presidential nominations do not usually go begging. Heretofore the Republican party's difficulty has been of quite another kind, to harmonize conflicting ambitions into a unit, through the action of an acid, and electricity is free. In the body, the brain, the heart, the liver, the muscles all act through the destruction, or rather alteration, of the substance of which they are composed. With every thought that emanates from the brain, with every emotion which it feels, with every act of the will which it originates, with every perception which it experiences, a certain portion of the central tissue is broken down into simpler substances and through various channels is excreted from the body. With every pulsation that the heart makes some part of the organ, small though it may be in amount, is destroyed and is cast out of the system to make room for new substance.

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modesty, and are falling one by one, in the nineties of a general diffidence and shyness. The verb to decline is the leading part of speech with the Republican standard of the period. "I decline," "They decline," and "He declines," on every hand. Up to date the noble army of decliners includes the following illustrious names:

(1) JAMES G. BLAINE—declined for "personal reasons."

(2) GENERAL WILLIAM TROMBET SHERMAN—declined in favor of Brother JOHN.

(3) GENERAL PHILIP H. SHERIDAN—declined because he knows too much.

(4) GEORGE W. CHILDS—declined because he is a good live journalist.

(5) ROBERT LINCOLN—declined peremptorily.

(6) CHAUNCEY M. DEWEY—declined because he "doesn't want it."

There is no Republican candidate of prominence, except JOHN SHERMAN, who has not already declined, four months in advance of the meeting of the convention, and JOHN SHERMAN cannot afford to stand outside the combination much longer. The great "Widowmaker Trust" takes in all the big dealers in nominations except the Ohio evergreen; and it will crush him if he insists on competing against it alone.

The moral of this interesting situation is tolerably plain. The Republican leaders were never known to care for anything that was out of their reach. They would take a nomination for the presidency at any time if they supposed it was worth anything. But there's the rub. The game is not worth the candle this time. The finger of fate points inexorably to a long period of Democratic rule, and the heavy shadow of a foregone conclusion rests upon the Republican landslide of 1888. BLAINE, SHERIDAN and the other distinguished decliners know what they are about. They have read Mr. Asor's fables, and perceive the profound statesmanship of the fox who declined, "for personal reasons," the grapes that hung too high.

The year 1888 will be known in history as the year when not only the Republican leaders, but the national Republican party went into a decline.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

The Democratic presidential campaign is to cover 22 weeks this year. The convention is to be held June 5, which is two or three weeks earlier than usual, and a month earlier than was at first intended.

In thus changing the programme so as to be first in the field the Democratic managers acted wisely. It is by usage incumbent upon the party in power to make the first nomination, and it would have seemed like lack of confidence if the Republicans had been allowed to move first. And it would not have been wise. The Democracy, having given the country the purest and ablest administration since the war, is in a position to force the fighting.

Another thing. If the campaign is to be conducted upon the aggressive lines which President CLEVELAND with his usual courage has laid down, time is needed for a thorough discussion, to clear away in the minds of the people the misrepresentations with which the Republican press and leaders will seek to obscure the issue. The campaign in that event must be essentially an educating one for the masses of the people, and for that a long campaign is better than a short one.

As to the place in which the convention is to be held, there could not have been a better choice than St. Louis. It is the most central city in the country. It is a lucky city, too, for the Democracy; for 12 years ago TRUMAN and HENDRICKS were nominated there, and they were triumphantly elected at the polls, though afterwards deprived of their offices by bribery, perjury, forgery and open violations of the constitution.

The Democratic national committee has followed up well the good beginning made by President CLEVELAND. Now for a bold, aggressive campaign all along the line.

DOWN WITH THE TRUSTS.

Congress is but half awake to the tightening grip which "trusts" of various kinds are getting on the commercial interests of the nation.

The investigations now in progress at Washington, of the coal monopoly— which is but a form of trust without the name—and of the dozen other contrivances for making enormous profits by preventing competition, are the first symptoms of awakening interest displayed by our legislators. The father of all trusts, the Standard Oil Company, has been accumulating its millions for years; and save for the protests of the press and the disappointed wail of the companies that have vainly striven to compete with the monster, not a word has been said against the gigantic combination. Yet for the last ten years the Standard Oil Company has been taxing on every oil stove and kerosene lamp in the land. The poor student, reading in his dimly room to learn the duties of citizenship, has had his college debts increased by this monopoly, and has worn shabbier clothes and eaten poorer food to increase its earnings. The sugar-fingered sugar girl and the poor widow, working late at night to keep a roof over their heads and hold up honor in spite of misfortune, have had their fight against shame or the alms-house made harder that the Standard Oil Company might grow rich and place still higher prices upon an article of universal consumption. Yet in spite of the want and woe which it has produced, and largely in consequence of it, the company grows richer year by year; its officers wear larger diamonds and indulge in more extravaganzas; and the people who suffered have permitted the trust to attempt to overthrow or restrain the great enemy.

The Standard Oil Company was a success. From the Atlantic to the Pacific it had complete control, and what prices it chose to make had to be paid. No wonder, then, that men engaged in other lines of business should follow its example. Witnessing the great gains of the oil monopoly, they went and organized other trusts, until their name is now legion.

The materials of commercial prosperity in the United States were never more abundant than they are today. The West yields an ever-increasing amount of corn and wheat and beef and pork and mutton; the South yields its cotton fields and enlarges its rice and sugar plantations year by year; and the East builds new factories and banks and houses to accommodate its rapidly growing business. There is no reason why everybody should not be prosperous. Yet the fact remains that the millions are filled with strong men and healthy women who are unable to get a living, and the streets of our cities swarm with the unemployed. When we consider that this state of affairs exists at a time of unequalled productive activity, when corporate monopolies, with stocks watered ten times their original cost, are paying 10 and 20 per cent dividends, it is clear that there must be something wrong about our system of laws to allow the great accumula-

tion of wealth by the few at the expense of the poor millions. What makes matters still worse is the fact that the line between the rich and poor is growing more marked every year. Beggars and rags are more common in the poor streets of our cities, and diamonds flash and silks rustle more plentifully in the "aristocratic" quarters. Unless there is a remedy applied soon the nation will have but two classes of citizens—millionaires and beggars.

But, fortunately for the people, a remedy is within their reach, if they will use it. They require no HENRY GEORGE or Dr. Mc GLENN panacea for this. It can be had in the ballot box, where the poorest man is the peer of an ASOR. Labor organizations throughout the country should unite in demanding that all pools and trusts must be prohibited by law. They should see the managers of the political parties and have clauses put in the platforms, and make sure the candidates are pledged to a thorough reform. No general meaningless vamping about the "laborer's wrongs of his kind" or "workingmen must be protected" or "their rights" will do in this great battle. Let the declaration of principles be emphatic, outspoken and specific. Let the names of the obnoxious corporations be called out in open convention, and let the people get up and declare that the Standard Oil trust, the coal monopoly and all the growing trusts shall be checked here and now. The price of an article should be regulated by supply and demand without manipulation. The man or the corporation that advances the cost of articles in general use by cornering the market is an enemy to the people and a traitor to the principles of equality on which our nation is built. The downfall of trusts and monopolies must come sure and soon, in order to save the country from disaster and perhaps from ruin.

Will the workmen of New England do their part in this great struggle? If so, they should begin now, and keep up the fight until victory is assured.

EDITORIAL POINTS.

The wheels of New York justice have moved another cog. SQUIRE and FLYNN will have a trial if they live long enough.

A German doctor says a man's heart is bigger by two square inches than a woman's. But you can't make an old maid believe it.

It seems pretty clear now that PHIL SHERIDAN was not born in Ohio. No Ohio man was ever known to refuse a nomination or an office.

GEORGE WASHINGTON was a good man, and had lots of backbone. But he don't stick worth a cent—alone two cents—on the new green stamp.

Now that St. Louis has beaten Chicago for the convention, we may expect the Chicago papers to say some very uncomplimentary things about the successful sister city.

A Minnesota man says that "no man can make a decent speech in a shirt made by his wife." Wonder who made the shirt he had on when he made such a mean speech as that.

LITTLE JOSEPH HOFMANN was to receive about \$10,000 for the "season of music"; but as he gets \$100,000 for not playing, he will "claw the ivory" no more. In his case silence is very golden.

Professor SWIFT of Montreal has been sent to an insane asylum. As he can speak 12 languages fluently the inmates will have no trouble in understanding him no matter how mad they may be.

Democracy this year holds its convention two weeks before the Republicans have theirs. In the political struggle of 1888 the Democratic yacht is to be first at the start and first at the finish.

WASHINGTON'S greatest philanthropist, W. W. CORLISS, by running the ship of the few men who gave liberally while living and did not wait for approaching death to frighten him into generosity, may have many imitators!

Wonder the prohibition crowd doesn't swear out an indictment against the Big Dipper for doing business without a license. It's always swinging round the pole, and as good as asking everybody to "take a drink."

There is room in this great and growing republic for most everything. But CHAUNCEY DEWEY hit the nail on the head when he said we had no room for anarchy. Anarchy is a bad thing, and it is time to move on the 1st of May, if not earlier.

What will be the cut on sugar? is one of the questions of the hour. In spite of tariff laws, the spring system of "cut" on sugar will probably be the same as last year. Lumps will be as nearly on the square as the machines can turn them out.

It is hard to say harsh things of the dead, but when a man commits suicide because of poverty and leaves a wife and a lot of little children behind, it looks a good deal like cowardice. Are they any better prepared to fight the wolf than he was?

New York Sun: The Meaneest Man is heard from occasionally. On Saturday he stole an overcoat from a man who had kicked him to jump into the East river and save a drowning person. This article breaks the Meaneest Man's meaneest record.

New York World: The presidential loan for McKinley of Ohio is based to a great extent on the fact that the Buckeye congressman resembles in countenance the portraits of NAPOLEON I. When asked if he will be able to obtain the nomination he remarks: "Of Corsican."

OUR NATION.

The Young People's Political History of the United States.

Jefferson's Great Simplicity and Democratic Manners.

He Made the Common People Feel They Were the Sovereigns.

Joy Over the Acquisition of Louisiana From France.

Peace and Prosperity Reward His Second Term.

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CHAPTER VI.

[WRITTEN BY JAMES PARTON.]

MEAN to sink Federalism in an abyss of oblivion, and no resurrection shall be for me. Thus wrote President Jefferson early in his first term, and he accomplished his purpose. Federalism, as it was in the power of mortal to accomplish it. He did indeed sink the Federalism of 1798 into a deep, deep abyss, and it has never been seen again.

Jefferson's first care was to allay the angry passions of his fellow citizens. In his first term, he accomplished his purpose. Federalism, as it was in the power of mortal to accomplish it. He did indeed sink the Federalism of 1798 into a deep, deep abyss, and it has never been seen again.

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BAINEBRIDGE BEFORE THE DEY OF ALGIER.

Washington of their taking the law into their own hands and seizing New Orleans, Jefferson, as much to quiet them as to protect his own scheme of acquiring the country, dispatched James Monroe as a special envoy to negotiate with Napoleon for the cession of New Orleans, and as much more of the territory as he could reasonably expect.



SURRENDER OF THE CHESAPEAKE.

cheese was served, and all found it good except the Swiss Gallatin, who was perhaps too good a judge of cheese to appreciate it.

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GEIGER'S REFORM.

Jews and Christians Now Affiliates.

The Freedom It Has Given to the Hebrew Women.

What Rabbi Schindler has to Say of Religious Reformers.

At the Temple Adath Israel last week Rabbi Solomon Schindler delivered the twenty-first of his Friday evening lectures, taking as his subject "Reformed Judaism, and Abraham Geiger, the Reformer."

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